
Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
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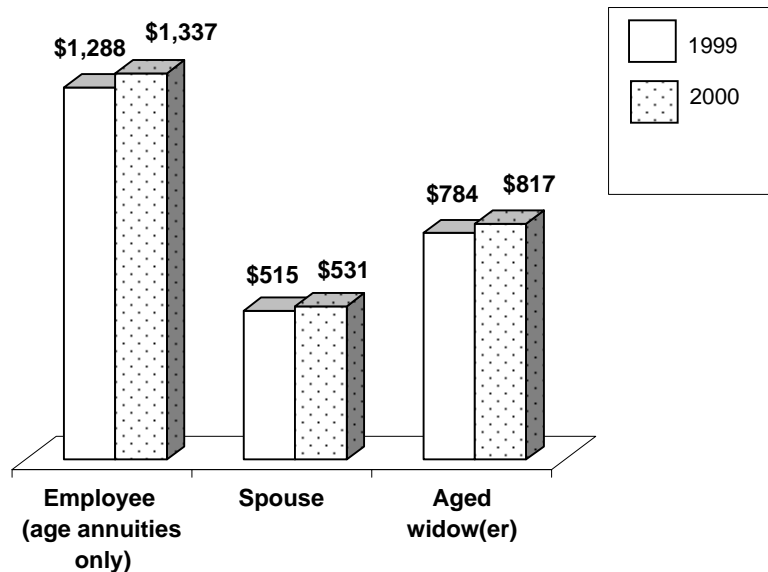
June 14, 2000

Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for **January - March 2000**

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**Average annuity amounts being paid,
March 1999 and March 2000**



Note.--Includes cost-of-living increase payable in January.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
January - March 2000**

Period	Total ¹		Employee annuities				Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse annuities
			Age	Disability		Supple- mental		
	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries		Age under 65	Age 65 and over			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2000	830,711	681,779	232,015	40,838	38,928	140,602	160,132	3,571
February 2000	834,218	684,546	233,056	40,744	39,097	141,293	160,955	3,591
January 2000	836,815	686,628	233,790	40,609	39,212	141,772	161,530	3,605
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2000	.....	.....	\$1,337.30	\$1,661.46	\$1,221.71	\$42.47	\$531.38	\$327.05
February 2000	.....	.....	1,334.91	1,658.71	1,218.03	42.50	530.69	325.76
January 2000	.....	.....	1,332.58	1,655.68	1,215.50	42.51	530.14	325.39
Number awarded during period								
March 2000	3,002	2,602	579	379	.....	400	655	39
February 2000	3,255	2,841	633	372	.....	414	671	28
January 2000	3,231	2,828	581	560	.....	403	656	43
10/99 - 3/00	18,446	15,826	3,681	2,345	.....	2,620	3,970	205
10/98 - 3/99	17,905	15,708	3,253	2,593	.....	2,197	3,840	219
Average amount awarded during period ²								
March 2000	.....	.....	\$1,669.12	\$1,928.36	.....	\$39.78	\$579.75	\$319.79
February 2000	.....	.....	1,727.18	1,901.22	.....	40.59	592.67	309.11
January 2000	.....	.....	1,681.86	1,885.71	.....	40.32	563.32	327.28
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
March 2000	\$692,020	.....	\$310,370	\$70,627	\$47,395	\$6,204	\$85,815	\$1,250
February 2000	695,792	.....	311,599	71,566	47,492	6,123	86,279	1,243
January 2000	694,224	.....	311,404	70,040	47,535	6,235	86,680	1,314
10/99 - 3/00	4,139,854	.....	1,857,816	419,476	282,462	37,029	515,505	7,496
10/98 - 3/99	4,129,288	.....	1,863,760	397,500	277,044	37,946	522,648	7,549

¹Includes dependent parents' and survivor (option) annuities. Except for benefit payment data, excludes insurance lump-sum and residual payment figures. Benefit payments also include hospital insurance benefits for services in Canada. ²Regular employee and spouse annuity averages are preliminary estimates.

NOTE --MONTHLY BENEFITS in CURRENT-PAYMENT STATUS at the end of month include all benefits awarded to date and payable for the month.

BENEFITS AWARDED consist of those certified for the first time on either a partial or final basis.

BENEFIT PAYMENTS for a month, shown in both the benefit and financial statistics, consist of recurrent monthly checks dated the first of the month, plus retroactive and lump-sum payments made during the month, less returned checks (excluding those not yet distributed by Account), refunds of benefits paid previously, etc. Data are on a cash basis (unaudited) and are partly estimated.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics -
January - March 2000 -- Continued**

Survivor benefits								
Period	Annuities					Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2000	178,424	5,782	1,240	5,921	9,276	13,913	.....	.....
February 2000	179,242	5,807	1,240	5,929	9,251	13,944	.....	.....
January 2000	180,017	5,835	1,257	5,943	9,269	13,904	.....	.....
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
March 2000	\$817.26	\$707.02	\$1,017.45	\$567.42	\$575.08	\$678.20	.....	.....
February 2000	815.63	705.82	1,013.81	566.08	573.24	677.31	.....	.....
January 2000	813.95	705.19	1,015.29	564.45	572.76	676.45	.....	.....
Number awarded during period								
March 2000	751	16	16	35	68	64	555	8
February 2000	929	20	16	26	67	79	430	3
January 2000	809	20	17	26	63	52	581	10
10/99 - 3/00	4,515	112	87	178	363	369	2,607	43
10/98 - 3/99	4,711	103	96	168	375	349	2,792	39
Average amount awarded during period ²								
March 2000	\$945.86	\$853.12	\$881.56	\$683.89	\$554.45	\$864.56	\$889	\$4,611
February 2000	991.45	828.89	801.01	677.46	587.37	803.54	878	5,094
January 2000	1,010.95	929.92	994.31	630.77	634.01	838.85	872	3,522
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
March 2000	\$145,680	\$4,157	\$1,308	\$3,445	\$5,410	\$9,781	\$500	\$37
February 2000	146,684	4,227	1,336	3,439	5,467	9,906	377	15
January 2000	146,290	4,188	1,437	3,394	5,400	9,713	516	36
10/99 - 3/00	872,789	25,065	8,288	20,474	32,274	58,439	2,323	170
10/98 - 3/99	876,692	25,102	8,441	19,990	30,985	58,650	2,570	158

NOTE .--(Continued from previous page.)

FOR WIDOWS and WIDOWERS aged 60 and over and WIDOWED MOTHERS and FATHERS, the number of benefits being paid and benefit payments include benefits temporarily being continued at spouse annuity rates, pending award of survivor annuities.

INSURANCE LUMP SUMS and RESIDUAL PAYMENTS are each counted only once with respect to an employee's death even though divided among 2 or more persons. Award data for insurance lump sums exclude deferred benefits, i.e., those payable a year after the employee's death.

Data on benefit payments are for CALENDAR MONTHS; all other data are for ACCOUNTING MONTHS ending on approximately the 20th of each month.

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics-
January - March 2000 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	March 2000	February 2000	January 2000	October 1999 - March 2000	October 1998 - March 1999
RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period¹	\$15,985,447	\$15,829,796	\$15,679,283	\$15,768,922	\$15,451,175
Income, total	606,386	503,257	494,143	2,544,409	2,265,332
Payroll taxes ²	241,462	262,546	215,515	1,245,111	1,318,078
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	59,000	148,000	126,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	94,306	94,068	94,601	559,516	560,363
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ⁴	263	-130	116	533	271
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury ⁵	41	53	45	260	228
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments ⁶	270,314	146,720	124,866	590,989	260,391
Outgo, total	344,987	347,606	343,629	2,066,484	2,046,694
Benefit payments	244,393	248,333	245,084	1,476,971	1,460,737
Payments of SSA benefits	94,480	94,041	94,434	559,526	560,011
Administrative expenses ⁷	5,717	5,070	3,940	28,791	24,884
Funding for Office of Inspector General	397	161	171	1,195	1,062
Balance at end of period¹	16,246,847	15,985,447	15,829,796	16,246,847	15,669,813
RAILROAD RETIREMENT SUPPLEMENTAL ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$56,952	\$57,558	\$58,549	\$56,768	\$41,004
Income, total	6,381	5,727	5,409	38,443	54,487
Taxes ²	6,092	5,442	5,109	36,792	53,445
Interest on investments ⁶	289	285	300	1,651	1,042
Outgo, total	6,450	6,333	6,400	38,327	39,016
Benefit payments	6,204	6,123	6,235	37,029	37,946
Administrative expenses ⁷	229	203	158	1,245	1,023
Funding for Office of Inspector General	17	7	7	53	46
Balance at end of period	56,883	56,952	57,558	56,883	56,475

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics -
January - March 2000 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued**

Item	March 2000	February 2000	January 2000	October 1999 - March 2000	October 1998 - March 1999
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$2,020,016	\$2,006,757	\$1,979,618	\$1,934,687	\$1,965,234
Income, total	448,974	442,625	457,473	2,656,794	2,601,566
Payroll taxes ²	174,032	189,226	165,631	1,040,120	988,318
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	23,000	63,000	60,000
Financial interchange advances ⁸	265,072	243,728	258,997	1,497,668	1,510,088
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Interest on investments ⁵	9,870	9,672	9,845	56,007	43,160
Outgo, total	429,965	429,367	430,333	2,552,457	2,547,945
Benefit payments	426,987	426,826	428,334	2,538,022	2,535,135
Repayment of financial interchange advances ⁸	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
RRB-HCFA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Financial interchange adjustment	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Administrative expenses ⁷	2,770	2,456	1,909	13,797	12,251
Funding for Office of Inspector General	209	85	90	638	559
Balance at end of period	2,039,024	2,020,016	2,006,757	2,039,024	2,018,854
DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT⁹					
Balance at beginning of period	\$1,940	\$2,078	\$2,133	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments ¹⁰	14,279	14,372	11,516	\$83,615	\$91,137
Income tax transfers ³	.....	.....	3,000	6,000	6,000
Vested dual benefit payments	14,437	14,510	14,571	87,832	95,469
Balance at end of period	1,783	1,940	2,078	1,783	1,667

¹Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of March 2000, liabilities were \$6,755,000. ²Net of U.S. Treasury adjustments for payroll tax refunds to certain carriers and their employees for prior periods. ³Includes U.S. Treasury adjustment for prior period income tax reconciliation. ⁴Net of amounts distributed by account. ⁵Net of returns of uncashed check credits. Includes undistributed canceled checks under 1-year limited payability. ⁶Net of adjustments for payroll tax refunds (see note 2). RR Account: Amounts reflect changes in market value of zero coupon bonds. ⁷Reflects adjustments for prior periods. ⁸Includes interest. ⁹Total vested dual benefits paid during a fiscal year are limited to the amount appropriated to the Dual Benefits Payments Account for that year. Any amounts not spent are returned to the U.S. Treasury. The benefit appropriation for fiscal year 2000 was \$173.3 million, including income tax transfers. The appropriation for fiscal year 1999 was \$189 million. ¹⁰Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks.

NOTE.--Data relate to CALENDAR month.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

**Table 3: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics
January - March 2000**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
Unemployment						
March 2000	945	1,280	252	6,853	6,485	462
February 2000	1,527	2,829	273	6,858	6,577	396
January 2000	3,424	1,569	541	5,822	5,760	266
7/99 - 3/00	13,374	10,823	1,372	11,956	11,864	799
7/98 - 3/99	12,731	10,387	1,205	11,401	11,278	840
Sickness						
March 2000	1,802	1,435	529	6,727	5,663	1,392
February 2000	1,665	1,252	694	6,449	5,687	1,179
January 2000	1,690	1,224	1,201	6,847	6,765	653
7/99 - 3/00	21,594	16,898	2,864	18,043	17,811	2,388
7/98 - 3/99	21,381	16,221	2,813	17,102	16,871	2,505
Period	Number of payments			Averages ¹		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week	Benefit payments (thousands)
Unemployment						
March 2000	13,429	12,436	993	9.0	\$226.90	\$5,901
February 2000	11,928	11,149	779	8.8	226.60	4,828
January 2000	8,221	7,864	357	8.4	226.70	3,723
7/99 - 3/00	60,443	56,635	3,808	8.8	227.15	26,592
7/98 - 3/99	64,569	60,591	3,978	8.9	219.05	26,508
Sickness						
March 2000	14,365	11,173	3,192	8.9	\$226.05	\$4,133
February 2000	12,127	9,807	2,320	8.8	224.05	2,480
January 2000	14,099	13,253	846	8.8	227.10	3,716
7/99 - 3/00	115,303	105,242	10,061	8.9	228.00	31,739
7/98 - 3/99	111,902	101,534	10,368	9.0	219.45	26,896

¹Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week--equal to 5 times average daily benefit.

NOTE--An unemployment claimant files only one APPLICATION for a benefit year. A sickness claimant files an APPLICATION at the beginning of each period of continuing sickness.

NORMAL BENEFIT ACCOUNTS are opened when the first payment is made.

The number of BENEFICIARIES is the count of persons receiving unemployment or sickness benefits in the period. Those receiving both normal and extended benefits for unemployment or sickness are counted only once in the total for each type.

PAYMENTS generally cover 14-day registration periods. For registration periods beginning prior to October 9, 1996, no benefits were payable for first claims for unemployment or sickness in a benefit year, which generally resulted in a 14-day waiting period. Effective with registration periods beginning October 9, 1996, and later, benefits are payable for days over 7 during an employee's first 14-day registration period.

Sickness benefits are paid for days of sickness after the 4th consecutive day of sickness in the first claim in each period of continuing sickness; for subsequent registration periods in the same period of continuing sickness, payments are made for all days of sickness over 4 whether or not consecutive. Unemployment benefits are paid for days of unemployment over 4. However, in the case of unemployment benefits due to a legal authorized strike, unemployment benefits are not paid until after a 14-day waiting period. Non-strikers unemployed due to an illegal strike must also serve a 14-day waiting period.

(Continued on next page.)

**Table 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics-
January - March 2000 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	March 2000	February 2000	January 2000	October 1999 - March 2000	October 1998 - March 1999
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$119,133	\$126,937	\$104,905	\$100,715	\$66,611
Income, total	672	-424	29,548	52,004	51,868
Contributions	111	390	21,135	43,263	44,645
Interest on investments	32	21	1,818	1,989	1,565
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ¹	530	-835	49	205	-156
Transfers from Administration Fund	.....	.....	6,546	6,546	5,814
Outgo, total	10,210	7,380	7,516	43,123	41,101
Unemployment benefit payments	5,901	4,828	3,723	20,948	22,277
Sickness benefit payments	4,133	2,480	3,716	21,560	18,296
Funding for Office of Inspector General	177	72	76	616	528
Balance at end of period	109,596	119,133	126,937	109,596	77,378
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND					
Balance at beginning of period	\$5,589	\$7,001	\$10,126	\$9,081	\$7,849
Income, total	20	59	4,565	9,118	9,944
Contributions	20	59	4,391	8,944	9,784
Interest on investments	.....	.....	174	174	160
Outgo, total	1,659	1,471	7,689	14,250	12,070
Administrative expenses	1,659	1,471	1,143	7,703	6,255
Transfers to RUI Account	.....	.....	6,546	6,546	5,814
Balance at end of period	3,949	5,589	7,001	3,949	5,723

¹ Net of distributed amounts.

NOTE .--(Continued from previous page.)

BENEFIT PAYMENTS are on a cash basis (unaudited) and represent amounts paid during the period including retroactive payments, less recoveries distributed to beneficiary accounts, refunds, and cancellations of previous payments.

ADMINISTRATION FUND balances reflect current adjustments to income and disbursements for previous years.

All unemployment and sickness data relate to CALENDAR MONTHS.

LEGISLATION enacted on October 9, 1996, increased the maximum daily benefit rate, revised the formula for indexing future benefit rates, and reduced the initial benefit waiting period. The amendments also apply an earnings test to some unemployment claims and reduce the maximum number of weeks in extended benefit periods for long-service employees.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- March 2000
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RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$692,020,000
Regular benefits	671,380,000
Vested dual benefits	14,437,000
Supplemental annuities	6,204,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	831,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	312,000	\$1,365
Supplemental	141,000	42
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	164,000	527
Aged widows' and widowers'	178,000	817
Other survivors'	36,000	650
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	682,000	.....

UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS

	Unemployment	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$5,901,000	\$4,133,000
Beneficiaries	6,900	6,700
Average payment per week	\$227	\$226
